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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/542,051

07/13/2005

Takenori Tsuchiya

10517/281

6364

23838 7590 02/06/2007

KENYON & KENYON LLP
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EXAMINER

SHRIVER II, JAMES A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3618

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

02/06/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/542,051

Applicant(s)

TSUCHIYA, TAKENORI

Examiner

J. Allen Shriver

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 July 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on December 14, 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 13-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Misu et al. (US Patent 6,662,891 B2).**

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C.

102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

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Misu et al. discloses a vehicular battery mounting structure comprising a floor panel (14); a seat (78) disposed above the floor panel, the seat having a back portion and a bottom portion (See Fig. 5); a battery pack (10) having a plurality of battery unit cells (22) or battery modules in accordance with a performance of a vehicle, the battery pack being disposed between the floor panel and the bottom portion of the seat (See Fig. 5), the plurality of battery unit cells or battery modules being stacked in a longitudinal direction relative to the vehicle (See Fig. 2 and 4), the battery pack further comprising a cooling fan (31) that supplies a cooling medium in a direction of the vehicle width (See Fig. 4); **[claim 14]** wherein the seat is a seat that does not have a power seat function; **[claim 15]** wherein the seat is a passenger seat or a rear seat; **[claim 16]** wherein the battery pack comprises a battery body (16) formed by the plurality of battery unit cells or battery modules, and a space portion that is adjacent to the battery body and that is provided at a side of the battery body that faces a center line of a width of the vehicle (See Fig. 4 and 10); **[claim 17]** wherein the cooling fan is provided at a side of the battery body opposite from the side that faces the center line of the width of the vehicle, and wherein the cooling fan supplies the cooling medium between the battery unit cells, or between the battery modules; **[claim 18]** wherein the cooling fan supplies the cooling medium through the battery body from the side that faces the center line of the width of the vehicle to the side opposite from the side that faces the center line of the width of the vehicle; **[claim 19]** wherein the cooling fan supplies the cooling medium through the battery body from the side that faces the center line of the width of the vehicle to the side opposite from the side that faces the center line of the width of the vehicle, and discharges the cooling medium into a cabin; **[claim 20]** wherein the battery pack further comprises a diffusion portion for diffusing the cooling medium discharged from the cooling fan

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into the cabin; **[claim 21]** wherein the diffusion portion includes a plurality of outlets; **[claim 22]** wherein a suction direction of the cooling fan is a direction of a rotating axis of the cooling fan, and a discharge direction of the cooling fan is a circumferential direction relative to the cooling fan; and **[claim 23]** wherein the cooling fan is a sirocco fan; and **[claim 24]** wherein the battery pack is formed by a lithium ion battery or a nickel metal hydride battery (See column 9, line 35+).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-15 and 24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J. Allen Shriver whose telephone number is (571) 272-6698. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris P. Ellis can be reached on (571) 272-6914.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application may be made through either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

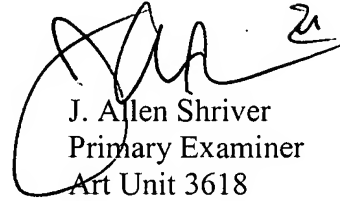
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Or faxed to: (571) 273-8300 (for formal communications intended for entry). (571) 273-6698 (for informal communications directly to the Examiner).



J. Allen Shriver
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3618

JAS